

Proclamation

by Governor Patrick Morrisey

- Whereas,** *Food Allergy Awareness Week* was established as a national week to encourage food allergy awareness and support those who are impacted by food allergies and anaphylaxis; and
- Whereas,** food allergies affect approximately 32 million Americans, including 6 million children, with the prevalence appearing to increase among children under the age of 18; and
- Whereas,** according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the prevalence of food allergies rose 50 percent between 1997 and 2011, and nine foods account for 90 percent of all food allergy reactions; and
- Whereas,** a food allergy is an immune system response to a food the body mistakenly believes is harmful, which causes the immune system to release massive amounts of chemicals, including histamine, that can trigger a cascade of symptoms affecting the respiratory system, the gastrointestinal tract, the skin, and/or the cardiovascular system; and
- Whereas,** there is no cure for food allergies, meaning strict avoidance is the only way to prevent an allergic reaction, and the condition presents the risk of anaphylaxis, a serious and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction that comes on quickly; and
- Whereas,** managing a food allergy on a daily basis involves constant vigilance, as trace amounts of an allergen can trigger an allergic reaction in some individuals.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Patrick Morrisey, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *May 10-16, 2026*, as:

Food Allergy Awareness Week

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Tenth day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Third Year of the State.



Patrick Morrisey
Governor

By the Governor:



Kris Warner
Secretary of State